asking to reconsider this decision; if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Recommendation of Raghavan Committee

1394. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the SVC Raghavan Committee on competition policy has recommended a progressive reduction and ultimate elimination of reservation of products for the small scale industrial and handloom sector; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The SVS Raghavan Committee on competition policy has, *inter alia*, recommended that the small scale sector should open up for competition, there should be no reservation of products which are on Open General Licence (OGL) for imports, there should be progressive reduction and ultimate elimination of reservation of products for the small scale and handloom sector. The Advisory Committee constituted under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 for SSI sector and the Advisory Committee constituted under the provisions of handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 recommend to the Government from time to time items to be added to and/or deleted from the reserved list. Thus, reservation/dereservation of items is a continuous process and the Government acts on the recommendations of these Committees. Any decision on the recommendations of the Advisory Committees taken by the Government takes into account the overall interest of the concerned sectors.